

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 04/23/2010 has been entered.
2. The information disclosure statements filed on 04/23/2010, 04/30/2010, and 08/12/2010 have been considered and placed in the file of record.
3. The Terminal Disclaimer has been filed and approved on 10/28/2009.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and / or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with David M. Longo Reg. No. 53,235 on 09/07/2010. Claim 18 has been amended as follows;

18. (Currently Amended) A method for planning a radiocommunications network, comprising:

computing cell coverage, using a computer, to indicate a region around a radio base station where a radioelectric signal radiating out from the radio base station copes with given requirements;

wherein computing the cell coverage comprises:
dividing the region around said radio base station into a number of first areas; dividing at least some of said first areas into a number of second areas; and for at least some target second areas of said second areas, computing respective quantifies indicative of the cell coverage within said target second areas, each quantity being computed for ~~the~~ a respective target second area as a function of data describing an environment between said radio base station and said target second area along a propagation path of a radioelectric signal radiating out from said radio base station and passing through said target second area;

each quantity being computed for the respective target second area as a function of data describing the environment within at least some said second areas close to at least one of said radio base station and said target second area along the radioelectric signal propagation path, and as a function of data describing the environment within at least some said first areas along the remaining stretch of the radioelectric signal propagation path, wherein computing each quantity for the respective target second area comprises:

forming a mixed resolution environment profile describing the environment between said radio base station and said target second area along said radioelectric signal propagation path,

wherein forming the mixed resolution environment profile comprises:
identifying obstacles encountered by said radioelectric signal within at least some
said first areas along the propagation path from said radio base station to said target
second area; and
consolidating identified obstacles which are spaced apart one from another at a
distance lower than a given distance.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. In view of amended claims and further search, Claims 18-34 are allowed.
6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
Claims 18-34 are allowed for the reasons as set forth in applicant's response filed on 04/23/2010.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BABAR SARWAR whose telephone number is (571)270-5584. The examiner can normally be reached on MONDAY TO FRIDAY 09:00 A.M -05:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, NICK CORSARO can be reached on (571)272-7876. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/BABAR SARWAR/
Examiner, Art Unit 2617

/KAMRAN AFSHAR/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2617